



## PAI Lan 白蘭 (b. 1938)

### Actress

Pai is originally named Fu Jinman, a native of Tainan City in Taiwan. In 1956, she was admitted into Taiwan's Zhonghua Film Company and adopted her stage name Pai Lan. In 1957, Zhonghua contracted Pai to the Yazhou Film Company to shoot the Taiwanese-dialect film *Tsu Hong Wu* (1957), where she also received acting and performance arts training. The film turned out to be a breakthrough for Pai, which made her a star. Through introductions from Hsia Wei-tang, managing director of International Film Co Ltd, Pai came to Hong Kong in 1959 to perform in a number of Amoy-dialect films produced by Golden City Film Company, including *The Jealous Woman* (1959), *The Happy Pair* (1959), *My Beloved Husband* (1959), *Love Between Sisters-in-Law* (1959) and *The Evil of Money* (1961), most of which were directed by But Fu. In 1960, she revisited Hong Kong to star in her last Amoy-dialect film *An Interrupted Dream* (1966). Pai later returned to Taiwan due to contractual disputes where she continued to play in other Taiwanese-dialect films.

In 1965, she won the Golden Tripod Award for Best Actress and the Formosa Award at the Taiwanese-dialect Film Festival Awards for her performance in *Since Your Departure* (1965). It was a rare and exceptional achievement that made her a silver-screen legend. Later, she accepted to work with Japanese director Fukasaku Kinji on his film *The Secret of the Diamond* (1966). In that same year, Pai formed her own production company Xinghua Film Company, with which she both produced and starred in the Taiwanese-dialect film *Kai Zhang Da Ji* (1966). In 1968, she partnered with Central Motion Pictures to produce *Morning Song* (1968) and *Jade Goddess* (1969), amongst other Mandarin films. She was married in 1970 and retired from films.